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COUNTRY**BULGARIA****REPORT****SUBJECT**

Soviet Geological Commission
and its Brigades in Madsharevo,
Ustrem, and Lesovo

DATE DISTR.

26 December 1956

NO. OF PAGES

1

DATE OF INFO.**ENCLOSURE ATTACHED****ED****REQUIREMENT NO.**

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PLACE ACQUIRED**REFERENCES**

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Attached is a seven-page report on:

- a. The Soviet Geological Commission with headquarters at Poduene Kvartal, Sofia, and the location of eight branches or brigades of the Commission;
- b. Details on the brigades in Madsharevo, Lesovo and Ustrem.

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Subject: **Soviet Geological Commission and Report No:**
Its Brigades in Madzharevo, Ustrem,
and Lesovo Villages.
2.REP. Ustrem

Date of Report: **21 November 1956**

Soviet Geological Commission

1. The Soviet Complex Geological Expedition, commonly known as the Soviet Geological Commission, has its headquarters in the Pedume kvartal of Sofia. exact address unknown

this Commission has the following branches, called Brigades:

- a. Madan (N 41-30, E 24-57) and Madan Okoliya.
- b. Gorna Petrovitsa (N 41-26, E 24-58) near Berleva Reka (N 41-27, E 24-58), Madan Okoliya.
- c. YANOVKA (41-28 E 24-58) ~~Myovska~~ and Nedelino (N 41-28, E 25-05), Madan Okoliya.
- d. Galinit ^(un. identified), Kremovgrad Okoliya (discontinued).
- e. Sharenka (N 41-29, E 24-55), Madan Okoliya.
- f. Erva Reka (N 41-25, E 24-58), Madan Okoliya, some 200 meters from the Greek border.
- g. Madzharevo (formerly Dupnitsa, N 41-38, E 25-52), Svilengrad Okoliya.
- h. Ustrem (N 42-01, E 26-28), Topolevgrad Okoliya.

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The main goal of these Brigades is to find lead-zinc, copper, or any other kind of ore. The Commission has a main supply and repair base in Asenovgrad (N 42-01, E 24-52) for all its Brigades. The head of the Commission is a Soviet, name unknown, and his assistant is MANDZHAKOV (fn), a Bulgarian; no other details known about MANDZHAKOV. Every Brigade has a managing group made up of Soviets. Soviets also make up a group called "Syonkadshiyska Grupa", and this group, of which all are geologists, searches for new ore sites. Every Soviet has a Militiaman as a guard.

Geological Research Brigade Near Madzharevo, Svilengrad Okoliya - March 1953-May 1954

2. The Madzharevo Geological Research Brigade is located 200 meters north of Madzharevo village, Svilengrad Okoliya, and has work camps on both sides of the Arda River, which passes through the village. The larger camp, called "Tursko Pole", is located between the big bend of the Arda River, on the left bank, and Tursko Pole village (N 41-40, E 25-51), Kharmanli Okoliya. The smaller camp is located north of Madzharevo on the right bank of the Arda River. The goal of the Brigade is to locate lead-zinc or copper ore. Drills have been used at level places, while horizontal shafts have been dug in hilly places. The Brigade has two vertical shafts, Shaft One being on the left bank of the Arda River, near the old shaft (indicated on Deutsche Heeres Karte Map VIII 6, 1:100,000, as N 41-38, E 25-52), and Shaft Three being on the right bank close to the north outskirts of Madzharevo village. On the left side of the river, there are also some horizontal galleries (shafts) going in the direction of Gabrove (N 41-38, E 25-55), Svilengrad Okoliya, in the locality known as Reikusa. In 1954 galleries were started in the direction of Bryagovets (N 41-38, E 25-48), Krumovgrad Okoliya. Of the horizontal galleries, the Brigade dug some 32 that were abandoned after a penetration of some 150-200 to 400-450 meters. 25X1
25X1 by now the Brigade may be working on horizontal gallery No. 42. Timber is used as supports in the galleries, and vertical shafts are drilled in the longer galleries for ventilation.
3. The large camp, on the left bank of the river, is located some 150 meters north-east of the old shaft. 25X1 the camp consisted of about 15 or 20 wooden barracks, of which 7 or 8 were two-storied and the rest one-storied. The workers slept in the one-story barracks, while the families of the management officials, as well as some workers, slept in the two-story barracks. The camp had a restaurant, a branch of the village cooperative in Dolni Glavanak village (N 41-42, E 25-50), Kharmanli Okoliya. The Brigade administration offices were located on the second floor, above the restaurant. A two-story barrack, located some 150 meters from the restaurant, housed the offices of the geologists, collectors, draftsmen, etc.; the first floor of this barracks housed the laboratory. The Militia office was located on the second floor of one of the two-story barracks. There was also a small repair shop located in this camp to handle minor repair jobs, while any major repairs were handled at the main supply base for all Brigades, which base was located in Asenovgrad. The small camp, on the right bank of the river, is located north of Madzharevo and consisted of 5 or 6 barracks which were used as sleeping quarters for the miners.

- 21 November 1955
- b. The Madzharevo Brigade possesses about 10 drills, as follows:
- a. Four drills are Model KAM 500, a Soviet make, and these drill to a depth of 400 meters. This type drill is powered by a crude oil motor, A-22, which has one cylinder and an unknown horsepower. The derrick is about 15 meters high.
 - b. Six drills are Model KAM 300, which drill up to 250 meters; these are driven by the same type motors as run the Model KAM 500 drills, and their derricks are about 12 meters high.
 - c. The water pumps for the drills are a product of "Sila" Yambol, 100 x 30 (sic) for the Model KAM 300, and 200 x 40 (sic) for the Model KAM 500.
 - d. Each drill has a crew of three men. The drillers work in three shifts and there is one relief shift for every two drills; therefore, the Brigade in Madzharevo had about 165 drillers.
5. When the miners reach an ore lode, the geologist carries its direction and thickness on a map, while the collector takes samples of the ore, purifies the samples in the camp laboratory, called "Kameral", and sends them to the head office in Sofia for further analysis. It was rumored that a lead-zinc ore lode had been found in Madzharevo, and this lode was rumored to be 30 meters thick and at a depth of 200 meters.
6. Up until 1955, for the transportation of its supplies, the Brigade used the old dirt road from the large camp to Tursho Pole village and from Tursho Pole to Vurbovo (N 41-46, E 25-52) and thence to Kharmanli. In 1955 a new road was built from the head of the Arda River to Borislavtsi (N 41-39, E 25-56), from where the road passes to Malki Voden (N 41-40, E 25-57), and the latter is connected with a good road to Lyubimets (N 41-51, E 26-05), all of which are in Svilengrad Okoliya. This may be the reason why Madzharevo (formerly Dupnitsa) was transferred to Svilengrad Okoliya.
7. For transportation of material across the river, a one-car cable line was built. The motor of the cable line is located on the left bank of the river, close to the old shaft; the electricity is supplied by the camp power station, which is driven by a crude oil motor. The cable line consists of one stationary cable drawn taut between towers, one tower on each bank of the river. Only one car on two rollers moves on this cable to the right bank and this car is pulled by a moving cable. After the car reaches the right bank, it is unloaded and sent back to the left bank. There is a loading ramp at each end of the cable line. Some 20 meters downstream from the cable line, a suspension bridge, for use by pedestrians, was built across the river. This bridge is about 180-200 meters long, 2.5 meters wide, and 7 meters high. It is suspended by means of three thick steel cables underneath and two cables overhead. The cables are anchored in concrete on each side of the river.

8. [redacted] the Brigade in Madshareve had some 700-800 workers during the summer and about 500 workers during the winter; these workers were mostly peasants from the surrounding villages. The master miners and other specialists were from all parts of the country. A mining crew consisted of three men: master miner, receiving 32 leva per day, assistant master, 27 leva per day, and the third man, 24 leva per day. The master drillers received 27.80 leva per day and the junior drillers, 19.10 leva. Twenty five percent was added to the daily wage of the miners because of hard living conditions; this supplement is paid only by the Soviet Complex Geological Expedition.

9. [redacted] the following as administrative and technical personnel of the Brigade in Madshareve:

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a. Georgi ELATANOV was chief of the Brigade and administrative manager;

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b. Atanas ATANASOV was a geologist

c. MANDILOV (fma) was head geologist at the Brigade

d. Kiril BUKHOMIY was a mining technician; graduate of a mining high school and therefore acquired the title "technician"

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e. Khristo KAYAKCHIEV was Party secretary for the Brigade and foreman of all the galleries at the Turcho Pale mine

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10. [redacted] Soviet specialists lived in the camp in separate barracks from the other workers and had a special restaurant. There were two Soviet women who were geologists, not married, and who lived in the Soviet compound of the camp.

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Leave Site of Geological Research Brigade in Ustrem, Topolevgrad Oblasts
July 1954 - June 1955 (Site abandoned)

11. The Ustrem Geological Research Brigade had a work site near Leave village (N 42-00, E 26-34), Blizhne Oblasts. This site was located 250 meters east of the Tundsha River and some 4 kilometers north of the point where the Tundsha river touches the Turkish border. The Brigade was in search of lead-zinc ore at this site; [redacted] lead-zinc ore was found on the Leave site, but since the percentage of the metal was very small, the site was abandoned 20 June 1955. The only drill the Brigade had at Leave was taken to the site at Ustrem on 24 May 1956 (correct). At this site there were mine galleries, numbered in the following manner: One to six, 13, 14, and 15. Gallery 15 was the shortest one, being about 200 meters, and Gallery 2 was the longest one, being about 350 meters. Galleries 1 and 3 started from opposite directions and met each other. Most of the galleries had vertical shafts for ventilation.
12. At the Leave site the Brigade had about 220 workers and technical personnel. These lived in a camp located 4.4 kilometers north of the point where the Tundsha River meets the Turkish border and some 250 meters east of the left bank of the river. The camp consisted of five or six, one-story barracks, 10 x 6 meters in size, having four rooms, and these were used as sleeping quarters for the workers, collectors, and geologists. There was also one, two-story barrack, 50 x 8 meters in size, which housed bachelors' quarters on the second floor and a restaurant on the first.

13. [redacted] personnel at the Leave site:

a. Genn GEMOV was chief of the Brigade in an administrative capacity

b. NILEV (fnn) was the chief geologist

c. Mircho Valkanov MIRCHEV was a collector

d. The Leave site was also visited by the chief of the geologists of the Ustrem Brigade, a Soviet citizen named Yakovlev (fnn)

Geological Research Brigade in Ustrem, Topolevgrad Oblasts - June-November 1955

14. The camp of the Ustrem Geological Research Brigade is located 5.5 kilometers north of Konstantinovo village (now Radovets, N 41-56, E 26-30), Topolevgrad Oblasts, and some 600 meters east of the Ustrem - Konstantinovo road. The

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The work sites are located in the nearby localities known as Shabeta, Mandrata (Hill No. 218) and Bel Topo (Hill No. 224). The goal of the Ustrem Brigade is to find ore lodes for the Ustrem RNP (Rudovo Ruzplestitsiennno Predpriyatie; Ora Ruzplestitsiennno Predpriyatie), which is connected with OGBRUSO. (See Para. 17)

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15. The Ustrem Brigade has the following galleries: Galleries 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, and 17. Gallery 7 is located two kilometers west of the Ustrem-Konstantinovo road in the locality known as "Golyunata Reka"; Gallery 11 is in the locality known as Sara Burnash, some 400 meters east of Gallery 7; Gallery 12 is located in Landeen Dere, right across from the camp, and the direction of the gallery is toward Konstantinovo. The Ustrem Brigade has 12 drills of the KAM 300 and KAM 150 type. These were used at Mandrata and Bel Topo to furnish additional information of the direction and depth of the lead, which information could not be obtained from the galleries.

16. The Ustrem Brigade has about 700 workers and technical personnel. Most of the workers are from Ustrem, Topolevgrad, Konstantinovo, and Loevo. They are housed in a camp consisting of 14 barracks located 200 meters south of Hill No. 216 in the Mandrata locality. [redacted] personnel of the Ustrem Brigade:

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a. Gemo GEMOV, administrative chief of the Brigade (see Para. 13 a).

b. MILEV (fma), geologist (see Para. 13 b).

c. TOTSOV (fma), chief mechanic [redacted]

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d. Kamen GEMOIEV, cashier; [redacted]

e. KAMOV (fma), in charge of drills [redacted]

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f. ABRICHIEV (fma), engineer draftsman (Marksheider) [redacted]

RNP USTREM

17. The RNP in Ustrem is located at the point where the Landeen and Furna brooks meet. The mine has two galleries and a shaft in operation. There are about 15 barracks for the workers and one or two apartment houses. The transportation of the ore from the mine to the outside is done via small mine cars, which are

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pushed to the main gallery by hand and from there, after being loaded, they are towed out by a battery driven engine. The ore is then dumped into a 20-ton capacity bunker from where it is loaded on dump trucks and taken to the Elkhovo (N 42-11, E 26-34) railroad station. A new gravel road was constructed from the bunker to the Konstantinovo - Elkhovo road. [redacted]

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[redacted] prior to the construction of the enriching plant in Kardzhali, the ore dug from the mine was shipped to Soviet Russia; now, however, [redacted] the ore may be being sent to Kardzhali. The mine has about 180-200 workers [redacted]

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The mine works in three shifts as follows:

a. In winter: 0600 hours to 1400; 1400 to 2200; 2200 to 0600.

b. In summer: 0000 hours to 0800; 0800 to 1600; 1600 to 0000.

[redacted] the 24-hour production of the mine to be 25 tons. The mine uses five trucks, and it takes four hours for a round trip by a truck; therefore, a truck can make five single trips per shift at the most.

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